GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1260
ANSWERED ON:13.07.2009
FOREIGN TRADE
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the present volume of foreign trade export/import-wise and the details with regard to countries with whom India has signed free trade agreement;

(b) whether the Government is exploring new markets for escalating foreign trade;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is any proposal to bring a comprehensive foreign trade policy; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to come into force?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a): India's merchandise exports and imports are as given in Annexure-I. Free Trade Agreements (FTA) signed by India are India-Sri Lanka FTA, Agreement on South Asian FTA (SAFTA), India-Singapore Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA), India-Nepal Treaty of Trade and India-Bhutan Agreement on Trade Commerce and Transit.

(b) & (c): The Government has announced Focus Market Scheme (FMS) and Market Linked Focus Product Scheme for promoting exports to select international markets with a view to enhance our export competitiveness in these countries. Details of the same can be viewed from the DGFT website: http://dgft.gov.in.

(d) & (e): The existing comprehensive Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2004-09 has been extended beyond 31.3.2009 "till further amendments" vide Notification No. 70 dated 8.12.2008.